

*James J.
Loyne*

ARTICLES

TO BE

Inquired of by the

CHVRCH-WARDENS

and **QUESTMEN** of every Parish, in
the ordinary Visitation of the Right Reverend
Father in God **GEORGE** by divine
Providence Lord Bishop of *Loyne*
CLOYNE.



DUBLIN,
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to the Kings most excellent
Majestie. 1639.

The forme of the Oath to be taken by the Church-wardens and Questmen in every Parish immediately before their presentments.

¶ And every of you shall sweare,
that you shall due inquiry and true
presentment make according to the
Articles given you in charge, of all
such crimes, faults, and defaults, as
have bin committed in your Parish: And of all
such persons, as are or have been beheniently
suspected, or defamed to have committed any
such crimes, faults, or defaults. You shall nei-
ther present any for hatred, malice, or any other
sinister respect, nor spare any for feare, favour,
or reward, but discharge your Consciences, as
men fearing God, for the reformation of sinne
and wickednesse, and the advancement of god-
linesse and vertue. So helpe you God.



I.

Concerning Religion and Church-governement.

1. Nprimis. Doe you know any that doe refuse to receive or appzove the Articles of Religion agreed upon in the Convocation holden at London, Anno Domini 1562. and received here in the Convocation begun at Dublin Anno Domini 1634? or have you heard of any, who have traduced or spoken against the same?

2. Also doe you know or have you heard of any person within your parish, that doth acknowledge any manner of obedience or subiectiō to be due to any sovrain power in causes Ecclesiastical? or that either by word or writing hath maintained, that the Kings power within this Realme of Ireland and all other his dominions and countries is not the highest power under God, to whom all men by Gods Lawes owe all loyaltie and obedience; and to no other power by potentiale upon earth?

3. Are there in your Parish any, who have traduced or spoken against the prescript forme of Divine Service contained in the Book of Common-Prayer? or against the forme of consecrating and ordering our Bishops and other Ministers? or have maintained that the Churches established under this government be not true Churches; or doe refuse to ioyne with them in Christian profession?

4. Is the Lords-day, and other Haly-dayes appointed by the oþers
of this Church, duly kept and obserued? And are any other Hoc-
ly-dayes obserued, beside those which are appointed by the Booke of
Common-prayer?

I I.

Concerning Parish Churches and Chappells.

5. Is your Parish Church or Chappell kept in due reparation;
the windowes well glazed, and the floores kept plaine and even?
and is your Church-yard well and sufficiently fenced, and maintai-
ned with wals, rayles or pales, as hath beene heretofore accus-
med? and is 1600 any yearis spaud or oþer-
wile of answere, and is 1600 to y-

2. 6. Have you in your said Church or Chappell a fit Seate for the
Minister to read Divine Service in, a decent Pulpit with a comely
Pulpit-Cloth and Cushion, a Font-stone with a cover, a faire Com-
munion Table with a decent Carpet and a faire Linnen-cloth for
the covering of the same, a Silver Cup with a cover, and a Stoope
or Flagon of Pewter (if not of purer mettall) for the celebration of
the holy Communion?

3. 7. Have you in your Church or Chappell two Bookes of Com-
mon-prayer (one for the Minister, and another for the Clerke) a Bi-
ble of the last Translation, the Booke of Canons agreed upon in the
Convocation begun at Dublin Anno 1634. and a Table of the de-
grees of Marriage prohibited by the Lawes of God?

4. 8. Have you a sure Coffer, with three Lockes and Keyes (where-
of one remaineth with the Minister, the other two with the Church-
wardens) and a Parchment-booke therein to be kept for the regis-
tring of every Childdening, Wedding and Buriall within your
Parish? And doth the Minister every Sabbath-day, in the pre-
sence of the Church-wardens record in the said booke the names and
surnames of all persons christened in the said Parish (together with
the names and surnames of their Parents) and also the names and
surnames of all persons married or buried the wieke before; toge-
ther

ther with the day and yeare of every such Marriage, Christning,
and Buriall?

9. Have you a strong Chest, with a hole in the upper part thereof
(having three Keyes, to be kept as aforesaid) fastned in the most
convenient place, that the Parishioners may put thereinto their
Almes for their poore neighbours?

10. Doe you know of any that hath shed bloud, or stricken, or quar-
relled with any person in your Church or Church-yard?

11. Are all monuments of idolatry and superstition abolished in
your Church or Church-yard? Hath there been any profane usage
kept therein; either playes, feasts, banquets, Church-Ales, danc-
ings, exposing any wares to sale, temporall Courts or Leets, Lay-
juries, Huskers, Commissions (other then for causes Ecclesiastical)
playing at Ball, or any other unseemly actions or misbehaviour?

III.

Concerning Ministers.

12. Is the Benefice within your Parish a Personage, Vicarage,
or Prebend? who is the Incumbent there? What tythes, Glebe-
lands, or other rights or possessions are thereto belonging? You
are to bring a true note of Terrier of the same into the Bishops Re-
gistry, there to be safely preserved.

13. Doth your Person or Vicar keepe his Manse-house, with all
the buildings thereto belonging, in due reparation? Doth he res-
ide, and keepe hospitality therein? If not, where doth he reside?
and how, and by whom is the charge supplied?

14. Doth your Person, Vicar or Curate duly every Sunday,
and Holy-day, and other times appointed doe his duty, in reading
diligently Divine Service, and (as occasion requireth) administering
the Sacraments; according to the forme prescribed in the Booke of
Common Prayer?

15. Doth your Minister begin and end Divine Service at due and
convenient hours? and doth he examine and instruct the youth of the
Parish every Sunday in the Catechisme set forth in the Booke of
Common Prayer, soz hale an houre before Evening Prayer?

16. Doth he, soz the fuller information of the people in the body of
Christian Religion, divide the heads thereof into so many parts as
there are Sundayes in the yeare? and in the handling and explaining
thereof doth he use such moderation, that he doth not runne into
curious questions and unnecessary controversies, but shortly declare
and confirme the doctrine proposed, and make application thereof to
the behoufe of the hearers?

17. How many Benefices or Ecclesiastical promotions hath your
Person or Vicar; and how farre distant are they the one from the
other? What Chappels hath he to his Cures belonging? by what
names are they called? and how and by whom are they served?

18. Doth your Minister preach every Sunday in that Church
where he is resident? and if not, doe you know that he hath any just
impediment soz the same?

19. Doth your Minister teach any vaine opinions, Heresies, or
Popish errors, disagreeing from the Articles of Religion generally
received in the Churches of England and Ireland? And doe you
know or have you heard any Preacher in the Pulpit particularly
impugne or confute any doctrine deliuered by any other Preacher in
the same Church, or in any other neare adiourning; or otherwise
make any publike opposition unto him? And have you acquainted
the Bishop of the Diocese therewith?

20. Doth your Minister, or Proprietary (if the Benefice be in
appropriate) allow a competent maintenance to the Curate, who sup
plieth that charge? and what doth he allow him? Is the Curate
licensed by the Bishop? And how many Churches or Chappels doth
he serue in one day; and how farre distant are they one from the
other?

11. Hath your Minister denied or neglected to visit the sick, or
christen or bury any, when he hath bene lawfully and convenient-
ly required thereunto?

14

12. Hath he marryed any in any other place, save in the face of
the Church; and at any other time, then between the houres of eight
and twelve in the soorenconne?

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13. Doth your Minister give warning publikely in the Church
Poping Prayer the Sunday before the Communion is to be ad-
ministered; to the end the Communicants may the better prepare
themselves thereunto; or hath he admitted any knowne impenitent
masons offendours to the participation of the same? And doth he
celebrat the holy Communion so often, that every Parishioner may
make thysice in the yeare at the least?

14. Hath he admitted any to be married, or to be Godfather or
Godmother at the Baptisme of any Childe, or to receive the holy
Communion; before they can say the Articles of the Belefe, the
Ius Prayer, and the Tenne Commandements in such a Lan-
guage as they understand?

15. Doth your Minister conferre with Recusants within his
pwrth, to sieke to recall them from their ignorance and errores; us-
ing god and sober conversation? Doth otherwise doth he give him-
selfe to any base or servile labour, to playing at Dice, Cards or
Tables, or any other game unbesemming his fungion? Is he a
common resorter to Tabernes or Alehouses, a great drinker, a
mimicall person, a knowne Usurer, a quarrellous or contentious
person, or otherwise defamed? Doth hee also goe grably and de-
sently in his apparell; according as the Canons doe prescribe?

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III.

Concerning the Parishioners.

16. Are there any in your Parish, who are suspected to be of no
religion, mere Atheists, not adhering to any Church? or any that
wilfully maintaine and defend any heresie, errore or opinion
contra-

for the Lord's Day etc: etc in any f.

17

contrary to the Word of God : and have any gone about to seduce others from the truth of Religion taught & professed in our Church

27. Are there in your Parish any, who see me to profess the faith and Religion of our Church, and formerly did frequent the Church and heare Divine service according to the Book of Common prayer that doe now refuse or neglect diligently to frequent their Parish Church, and there reverently and devoutly to attend Gods Service and receive the holy Communion: thrice in the yeare at the least, as it is required? Especially, you are to present the names of those, who have not communicated at Easter last,

18. Are there in your Parish any, that in contempt of their own Parish-church, doe resort to any other Church or Chappell?

19. Are there in your Parish any, who upon the Sunday, or other allowed holy-dayes, doe use their manuell labour or any that they have to sell, or frequent Tavernes and Ale houses in time of Divine Service and preaching upon those dayes, and at those times?

20. Is there in your Parish any, that hath disturbed or hindred the minister in the time of Divine Service or Sermon, or otherwise offended the people by walking, talking, laughing, or any other noise or clamour? Or that bring to the Church with them Hawkes with bells, or ill nurtured children which cannot bee kept quiet in the seats without running up and downe?

21. Have there any Bastards or base begotten children born, or are nursed within your Parish since the last Visitation? Present the names of the reputed Parents.

22. Are there any in your Parish that live together as Man and wife, and yet are vehemently suspected not to bee married, or to have another Husband or Wife?

23. Are there any in your Parish, who being under the government of their Parents or others, have made privy Contracts of Matrimony; not calling thereunto two or more witnesses, nor having

the censent of their Parents, or such others under whose governement they are?

34. Are there any in your Parish married within the degrees prohibited? or without their Bannes thrice solemnly published in their Parish Church, upon three severall Sundayes or Holy-dayes; or a licence first had from the Ordinary? or at any other time, then betweene the houres of eight and twelve in the soerownes?

35. What married persons in your Parish have bene divorced, and since married with others, for these thre yeares last past? By whose sentence were they divorced; and by whose licence, and by whom were they so married? Declare your knowledge in the premises, and what you have credibly heard.

36. Are there any in your Parish which are excommunicated? and how long have they stood so? Are there any who are reputed, or knowne to be common Drunkards, Swearers, Blasphemers, Incestuous persons, Adulterers, Fornicators, Bawdes, Perjured persons, Extortioners, or Oppressors; Common scolds, Brawlers, Slanders, Hake-bakes, Holders of discord betweene party and party, especially betweene Man and Wife? Or that have used Charmes, Spells, Sorcery or Witchcraft; or are guilty of any other notoious offence belonging to Ecclesiasticall cognisance, or are suspected or despaired to be guilty of the same?

37. Hauh any person within your Parish condemned, or abused by word or deed, any Minister of the Church?

38. Doe any in your Parish deny or detaine their payment due, rated towards the reparation and furnishing of the Church, or any other necessary pious use?

39. What persons in your Parish, having Goods or Chattells, have died since the last Visitation?

40. Have any within your Parish medled with the Goods or

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29. Chattels of parties deceased, without licence first had by letters of administration or otherwise from the Ordinary?

30. 41. Doe you know in your Parish any Executors of the goods of persons deceased, that have detained any Diphans goods, or Legacies bequeathed or appointed for the repairing of Churches or Highways, finding of poore Schollars, marrying of poore Paydens, or such other Charitable deeds; and not employed the said Goods or Legacies according to their authority given and charge enioyned.

V.

Concerning Parish-Clearkes, Church-wadens, and Schoole-masters.

31. 42. Is your Parish Clearke of competent age and skill for the executing of his office? Is he resident, and doth he diligently performe his duty in his owne person? Is he conformable to the Ordners of the Church, and of honest life and sober conversation?

32. 43. Were your Church-wadens and Sidemen duly chosen at the time, and after the manner appointed; namely upon Monday or Tuesday in Easter weke, by the loynt consent of the Minister and Parishioners? or otherwise, the one by the Minister, and the other by the Parishioners? And were they sworne the next Complay day after their election before the Bishop or his Chancelloz? Or are there any so chosen, who have refused to undertake that Office?

33. 44. Have the former Church-wadens, at the going forth out of their Office, given up a true account of what moneys they have received and disbursed? Have they brought in a Register of all Christenings, Marriages and Burialls, within the yeare of their Office; that the same may faithfully be preserued in the Bishops Registry?

45. Doe the Church-wadens, with the advice and direction of the Minister, provide against every Communion a sufficient quantitie of fine white Bread, and of good and wholesome Wine, for the number

er of the Communicants that shall from time to time receive? And
for they perfo;me all other duties, aswell in the Church as without,
required of them by the Canons and Constitutions of this Church?

46. What Schoole-masters or Tylthers have you in your Parish,
who teach Schoole either publickely or privately without Licence; and
in whom are they harboured?

37

47. Is there in your Parish any other matter or cause of
the Cognisance of the Church, above not expressed, worthy
presentment in your judgement? If any such matter or cause
there be; you are charged likewise to present the same, as you
are the rest, by vertue of your Oath.

35

FINIS.
